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Borough of Redcar

1965

ANNUAL REPORTS

by the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

P. S. R. BURRELL

and the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT

N. HUDSON, M.A.P.H.I., F.R.S.H.,
Certified Meat and Food Inspector

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MINISTRY OF HEALTH
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To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Redcar

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1965.

The population of the Borough continues to increase having risen by a further 970 to a total of 35,310, though the birth rate has fallen slightly.

There are no special features in the statistical tables which call for comment.

It is again a pleasure to record my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee and to the Officers of the Council for their help during the year.

I have the honour to be, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

P. S. R. BURRELL,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	7,161
Population (Registrar General's estimate for mid-1965)	35,310
Number of Dwellinghouses, Flats, etc.	11,517
Rateable Value	£1,810,037
Estimated product of a penny rate 1965–66	£7,180

VITAL STATISTICS

TABLE I

Live Births	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**
Legitimate	335	350	685
Illegitimate	26	21	47
Total	361	371	732

Rate per 1,000 population (corrected) — 21.4

Still Births	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**
Legitimate	4	4	8
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total	4	4	8

Rate per 1,000 live and still births — 10.6

Infant Deaths	**Legitimate**	**Illegitimate**
Under 1 year of age	13	—
Under 4 weeks of age	6	—
Under 1 week of age	4	—

Infant Mortality Rates	
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	17.8
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	19.0
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	
Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births	8.2
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	
Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births	5.45
Perinatal Mortality Rate	
Still births and deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live and still births	16.3
Maternal Mortality	Nil
Illegitimate births (per cent of total live births)	6.4

TABLE II

CIVILIAN DEATH RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, AND CASE RATES OF CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR, 1965

Rate per 1,000 Population

All Causes	Typhoid and Paratyphoid (Enteric Fever)	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria
11.65*	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	**Influenza**	**Pneumonia**	**Acute Poliomyelitis**
0.03	0.00	0.4	0.00

*Corrected Death Rate

NOTIFICATIONS

Per 1,000 Population

Typhoid	Paratyphoid	Meningococcal Infection	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Erysipelas
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.08	0.54	0.00	0.03

Dysentery	Smallpox	Measles	Pneumonia	Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	Acute Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	Food Poisoning
0.14	0.00	11.30	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.45

TABLE III

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES

	Male	Female
Tuberculosis respiratory	—	1
Tuberculosis, other	—	—
Syphilitic disease	—	2
Diphtheria	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—
Measles	—	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	1
Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	2	7
Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus	10	1
Malignant Neoplasm, breast	—	5
Malignant Neoplasm, uterus	—	3
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	13	15
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	—
Diabetes	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	20	39
Coronary disease, angina	62	35
Hypertension with heart disease	3	3
Other heart disease	19	25
Other circulatory disease	2	4
Influenza	—	—
Pneumonia	5	9
Bronchitis	12	1
Other disease of respiratory system	1	—
Ulcer of stomach duodenum	3	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	—	—
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—
Congenital malformations	1	5
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	9	10
Motor vehicle accidents	3	1
All other accidents	5	7
Suicide	1	1
Homicide and operations of war	—	—
	176	179

DEATHS FROM MALIGNANT DISEASE IN REDCAR DURING THE LAST TEN YEARS

1956	61	1961	67
1957	55	1962	60
1958	65	1963	67
1959	49	1964	78
1960	76	1965	58

COMMENTARY

The statistical tables do not show many special features which call for comment. The various rates shown compare with those for the country as a whole in most cases. Where there is a marked difference it will be found that the explanation is that when dealing with a comparatively small population a slight change in actual numbers may greatly influence the figures when expressed as a rate.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

	Population 35,310	Population 34,340	Population 33,400	Population 32,520	Population 31,540
Scarlet Fever	3	7	4	6	6
Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0
Typhoid Fever	0	0	0	0	0
Paratyphoid	0	0	0	0	0
Measles	396	390	108	423	233
Whooping Cough	19	59	26	15	40
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	0	1	0	0	2
Erysipelas	1	1	2	1	0
Pneumonia	2	5	2	3	5
Meningococcal Infection ...	0	0	0	0	1
Paralytic Poliomyelitis ...	0	1	0	0	0
Non-Paralytic Poliomyelitis	0	0	0	0	0
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	14	10	13	7	10
Other form of Tuberculosis	1	0	0	1	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	0	0	0	0	0
Dysentery	5	30	6	9	0
Food Poisoning	16	3	0	0	0
Encephalitis, Infective ...	0	0	1	0	0
Encephalitis, Post-Infective	0	0	0	0	0

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959
Full Course	675	751	482	472	531	531	331
Reinforcing Dose ...	289	238	181	104	222	253	151
	964	989	663	576	753	784	482

WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION

	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959
Full Course	674	618	482	458	451	388	271

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

WHOOPING COUGH

The sharp rise in the number of whooping cough notifications which was noted last year has not been repeated during 1965. There were only nineteen notifications compared with fifty-nine in the previous year and it is to be hoped that this favourable trend will continue.

DIPHTHERIA

Once again I am pleased to report that no case of diphtheria occurred in the year. The rate of immunisation remains high in infancy and at school age, though there is still some room for improvement at the later age. In future all immunisation records will be stored in a central computer at County Hall, and it is hoped that this will enable still better figures to be secured.

SMALLPOX

Parents of all children are informed that smallpox vaccination is available and is offered as a routine at the age of one year. Unfortunately the acceptance rate is low except when cases of smallpox occur in Britain.

DYSENTERY AND FOOD POISONING

Three cases of dysentery and sixteen of food poisoning were notified during the year. There is however good reason to believe that these represent only a proportion of the cases which actually occur since many people have only mild symptoms and do not consult a doctor.

Further courses in food hygiene for food handlers were organised by the Cleveland Technical College. These lectures are intended for people engaged in the food trade and are of great value in teaching the proper principles of food handling. It is usually found that a person will comply with these principles more readily when the reasons behind them are understood.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

There is one public swimming bath in the area. The water is obtained from the sea and is filtered and chlorinated before use. The state of chlorination is regularly checked and the level is maintained at a suitable figure. Samples are taken from time to time for bacteriological examination and have proved satisfactory.

Occasional complaints of irritation of the eyes by the chlorine have been received and were investigated but I am satisfied that the level of chlorine cannot be reduced without risk to the health of persons using the baths. This is, in any case, a complex problem which depends on other factors besides the amount of free chlorine present in the water.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The warden service for the care of old people living in council-owned bungalows is proving very satisfactory in practice. Each bungalow is provided with an inter-communicating speaker, by means of which the occupants can speak to the warden in charge of a group of bungalows. Residents are called daily by the warden to ascertain that all is well and the instrument is manned continually for emergency calls.

Further expansion of the Meals on Wheels has taken place and has done much to improve the nutrition of the old people of the town.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1947 and 1951

There were no cases in which action had to be taken to secure compulsory removal of a person under the National Assistance Acts.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The whole of the area is provided with a satisfactory sewerage system. Sewage disposal is by means of sea out-falls which is operating satisfactorily. There are, however, certain states of the wind and tide at which the beaches become polluted with solid matter from the outfalls and complaints are received from members of the public. With the ever increasing number of houses being connected to the sewerage system it seems likely that this problem will increase in the future and observations will be taken to ascertain the frequency and degree of these occurrences.

Although there is little scientific evidence to suggest that this form of pollution is a serious danger to health it is obviously most undesirable that the beaches should become contaminated in this way.

CLINIC FACILITIES AVAILABLE IN REDCAR

Details of various clinics held in the area are given below :—

5 Turner Street, Redcar

Child Welfare Sessions—Thursdays, 2-0 p.m.
Minor Ailments Clinics for school children—
Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 9-30 a.m.
Diphtheria Immunisation—
Mondays and Fridays, 9-30 a.m., Thursdays, 2-0 p.m.
Orthopaedic Consultant's Clinics—Second Tuesday in month, 10-30 a.m.
Dental Sessions—As an when arranged (by appointment).
Opthalmic Consultant's Sessions—Fridays, 2-0 p.m. (by appointment).
E.N.T. Clinic—Fourth Wednesday in month, 10-0 a.m. (by apopintment).
Poliomyelitis Vaccination—Mondays and Fridays (by appointment).
Chiropody—Friday, a.m. (by appointment).

Dormanstown Methodist Schoolroom

Child Welfare Sessions—Every Wednesday, 2-0 p.m.
Diphtheria Immunisation—Every Wednesday, 2-0 p.m.

Zetland Park Schoolroom

Child Welfare Sessions—Tuesday, 2-0 p.m.

Lakes Estate Clinic, Roseberry Square

Child Welfare Sessions—Monday, 2–4 p.m.
Chiropody—(by appointment).

HOUSING

	1965	1964	1963	1962
Permanent Dwellings completed by the local authority	2	46	354	150
Permanent Dwellings completed by private builders ...	177	217	251	364
Aged Persons Dwelling completed by local authority ...	—	39	—	21
	179	302	605	535

Permanent Dwellings under construction by local authority at end of year	269	176	64	346
Permanent Dwellings under construction by private builders at end of year	97	77	126	130
	366	253	190	476
Total number of applications for Houses at end of year ...	846	740	596	656
Total number of applications for Aged Persons Homes at end of year	436	402	370	331

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959

Part 1 of the Act

1. INSPECTION for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Written Notices
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	4	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	86	41	2
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	17	14	—
Total	107	56	2

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

	Number of cases in which defects were found			
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3.) ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4.)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)				
(a) Insufficient	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Deffective	2	2	Nil	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	2	2	Nil	Nil

ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR 1965

by

N. HUDSON,
M.A.P.H.I., F.R.S.H.,

Certified Meat and Food Inspector,
Chief Public Health Inspector and
Cleansing Superintendent.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Redcar

Mr. Mayor, Mesdames and Gentlemen,

Once again it gives me great pleasure and satisfaction to submit my Annual Report showing the work carried out by your Health and Cleansing Departments for the year ended 31st December, 1965.

The summarisations of the work of inspections were as follows, housing inspection and repairs, shops, food inspections, cafes, and public cleansing.

Detailed reports are given under separate headings throughout the report.

Inspections

In the following pages will be found tabulated statements of the number and nature of inspections made throughout the Borough and recorded during the year under the various Acts, Orders and Byelaws in force within the Borough :—

Total number of inspections	11,397
Total number of defects found (including outstanding 1964)	2,104
Total number of defects remedied	2,011
Total number of Informal Notices	630
Total number of Statutory Notices	15
Total number of Informal Notices complied with	595
Total number of Statutory Notices complied with	15

Sanitary Works and Improvements

Dilapidated dustbins	265
Choked drains	757
Choked and defective eave spouts	3
Keeping of animals, poultry, etc., in an insanitary condition	—
Defective construction of drains	26
Dirty condition of dwelling houses	6
Dirty condition of water closets, urinals, etc. ...	—
Accumulation of rubbish	359
Dirty condition of yards	1
Defective roofs	17
Defective floors	26
Defective sinks and sanitary fittings	25
Defective w.c. basins and cisterns	44
Choked street gullies	45
Defective paving of yards	—
Defective fireplaces	—
Premises in a verminous condition	18
Choked and defective rain water pipes	4
Broken plaster work	15
Offensive smells	156
Insufficient sink accommodation	—
Defective construction of windows	1
External walls requiring re-pointing	53
Defective and dangerous condition of outbuildings	—
Miscellaneous structural defects	67

Infectious Diseases and Disinfection

Number of infected houses	Nil
Number of infected houses disinfected ...	Nil
Number of schools disinfected	Nil
Number of classrooms	Nil

Disinfestation

During the year 18 complaints were received of infestations of insects.

Factories and Workshops

Number of inspections of factories and workshops	56
Number of nuisances found	2
Number of nuisances abated	2
Number of complaints from H.M. Inspector ...	Nil

Food Hygiene Regulations

Number of Inspections made	718
Number of unsatisfactory conditions found ...	65
Number remedied	51

Public Conveniences

Throughout the summer season, from Whitsuntide until the second week in September, the main toilets throughout the town are manned. I have found difficulty in recruiting cleaners and attendants for lavatory work.

People often accept these jobs because they cannot get anything better, and few of them feel satisfied or take much pride in their work. The attitude of mind — and the attitudes of mind of society towards them — might be changed to the benefit of themselves, their employers and the public whose health depends on their job ; and the change can be produced by treating cleaners on the same level as productive workers. Probably training courses for lavatory attendants could be arranged on a national basis, when it could be explained to them that their job is of importance. They should be given all the help they need to get them to understand the materials which modern chemistry now puts at their disposal. Thus attendants would come to appreciate that cleaning is not just a matter of sweeping and washing away visible dirt. This method has been taken up in America and Work Study has been employed. The work to be eliminated and the effort devoted to the cleansing of lavatories has been definitely studied.

In Britain, we have not reached this level of progress and no course of instruction has ever been decided on for lavatory attendants.

Vandalism has taken place throughout the town during the past twelve months. Very few culprits were apprehended and witnesses to the damage done were non-existent. It must be emphasised that there are some public conveniences where vandalism does not take place and its absence is undoubtedly accounted for by the very reason that vandalism takes place in other public conveniences. I think it is a thing that will be with us for a very long time to come as to these tyrants nothing is sacred. However, at the other end of the scale, there are people who would never commit an act of vandalism in any circumstances.

Vandalism is a symptom of breakdown in social relations. The vandal can be a spoiler of models, such as telephones, kiosks and litter bins. Vandals, for the most part, are those whose immaturity makes the attainment of maturity difficult. In some cases, these vandals depend on stimulants and drugs which may be helpful, or even tranquilisers or pep pills. To overcome vandalism, there is definitely a need in the first place for quick and effective detection and severe enforcement of the Law, and again, help from the Press from voluntarily abstaining from giving publicity to young lawbreakers, as reporting gives them a high sense of their importance.

Most people overlook the fact that making good the depredations of vandals enormously adds to routine maintenance costs which, although alleviated, are far from being covered by the revenue of pennies.

Moreover, too many members of the public read the printed injunctions to " Wash your hands " etc., without taking steps to pay heed to that admonition. Perhaps it is a subtle appeal that if these public conveniences were free, something for nothing, the practice of essential hand-washing would become easy to the Public.

As a Public Health Inspector, I maintain that handwashing after using a w.c. is not merely sociable and desirable, but vital to public health.

Water Supply

The water supplies to the Borough of Redcar during 1965 were of satisfactory bacteriological, physical and chemical purity. We were having trouble for some time with Alumina floculent which was found to be due to the filter beds at the end of Redcar Lane not working efficiently. This was brought to the notice of the Tees Valley and Cleveland Water Board and rectified. At all other times the supplies have been found to be satisfactory. Samples were taken as often as possible from different houses and all were found to be satisfactory.

Your Borough is supplied through Redcar Filtration plant and also through treatment plants at :—

Scaling Dam ;
Oven Close ;
Lockwood Beck ;
Long Newton Reservoir.

The following summaries show the results of the chemical and bacteriological analyses carried out during the year on the water supplied from these plants.

THE TEES VALLEY AND CLEVELAND WATER BOARD

LONG NEWTON FINAL WATER

Summary of Analysis Results

1st January to 31st December, 1965

(Chemical results expressed as parts per million except where otherwise stated)

Chemical Results

	Average	Maximum	Minimum
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.054	0.350	0.007
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.074	0.120	0.007
Nitrite Nitrogen	0.001*	0.002	<0.001
Nitrate Nitrogen	0.28	0.50	<0.25
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in 4 hours at 27°C.	2.5	3.8	1.6
Colour (Hazen)	11	15	5
Turbidity as Silica	1.9	3.9	0.9
pH	7.3	7.5	7.1
Free Carbon Dioxide	5.6	11.2	2.4
Alkalinity as $CaCo_3$	45	54	34
Carbonate Hardness as $CaCo_3$	45	54	34
Non-Carbonate Hardness as $CaCo_3$	36	45	27
Total Hardness as $CaCo_3$	81	99	70
Calcium Hardness as $CaCo_3$	71	81	63
Magnesium Hardness as $CaCo_3$	10	18	1
Chlorides as Cl.	14	16	10
Phosphate as P_2O_5	—	—	—
Silicate as SiO_2	2.2	4	1
Iron as Fe.	0.09	0.22	<0.04
Potassium as K	0.9	1.2	0.5
Sodium as Na.	5.7	6.8	4.2
Total solids dried at 105°C.	162	270	112
Conductivity (micromhos)	199	225	185

$<$ = less than. * = approximate.

Bacteriological Results

Number of samples collected for Bacteriological analysis during the period	244
Percentage of samples showing **No** presumptive coliform reactions per 100 mls.	99.1%
Percentage of samples showing **No** reaction for **B.coli** (type 1) per 100 mls.	100%

THE TEES VALLEY AND CLEVELAND WATER BOARD

OVEN CLOSE FINAL

Summary of Analysis Results

1st January to 31st December, 1965

(Chemical results expressed as parts per million except where otherwise stated)

Chemical Results

	Average	Maximum	Minimum
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.037	0.343	$<$0.007
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.025	0.130	0.007
Nitrite Nitrogen	$<$0.001	0.001	$<$0.001
Nitrate Nitrogen	0.34	0.50	$<$0.25
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in 4 hours at 27°C.	0.8	2.0	0.2
Colour (Hazen)	6	12	5
Turbidity as Silica	0.98	3.6	0.35
pH	6.8	7.1	6.4
Free Carbon Dioxide	42	74	5.1
Alkalinity as $CaCo_3$	68	70	64
Carbonate Hardness as $CaCo_3$ ...	68	70	64
Non-Carbonate Hardness as $CaCo_3$ ...	18	29	10
Total Hardness as $CaCo_3$	86	97	80
Calcium Hardness as $CaCo_3$ ...	64	77	57
Magnesium Hardness as $CaCo_3$ ...	22	40	6
Chlorides as Cl.	18	21	10
Phosphate as P_2O_5	—	—	—
Silicate as SiO_2	9	12	$<$1
Iron as Fe.	0.11	0.36	$<$0.04
Potassium as K	1.4	8.0	0.5
Sodium as Na.	12.1	16.0	11.0
Total solids dried at 105°C. ...	136	176	73
Conductivity (micromhos) ...	214	220	200

$<$ = less than.

Bacteriological Results

	Average	Maximum	Minimum
Colony count per ml. on yeast extract agar after 1 day at 37°C. ...	$<$1	4	Nil
Colony count per ml. on yeast extract agar after 2 days at 37°C. ...	2	35	Nil

Number of samples collected for Bacteriological analysis during the period	49
Number of samples showing **No** Presumptive coliform reaction per 100 mls.	48
Number of samples showing **No** reaction for **B.coli** (Type 1) per 100 mls.	48

THE TEES VALLEY AND CLEVELAND WATER BOARD

LOCKWOOD BECK FINAL

Summary of Analysis Results

1st January to 31st December, 1965

(Chemical results expressed as parts per million except where otherwise stated)

Chemical Results

	Average	Maximum	Minimum
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.062	0.029	0.007
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.055	0.090	0.020
Nitrite Nitrogen	0.001*	0.003	<0.001
Nitrate Nitrogen	<0.25	<0.25	<0.25
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in 4 hours at 27°C.	2.0	4.1	1.0
Colour (Hazen)	7	30	5
Turbidity as Silica	1.9	4.8	1.1
pH	7.1	8.0	<6.8
Free Carbon Dioxide	6.3	17	2.2
Alkalinity as $CaCo_3$	14	22	5
Carbonate Hardness as $CaCo_3$	14	22	5
Non-Carbonate Hardness as $CaCo_3$	45	66	34
Total Hardness as $CaCo_3$	59	81	42
Calcium Hardness as $CaCo_3$	42	57	27
Magnesium Hardness as $CaCo_3$	17	26	10
Chlorides as Cl.	23	51	15
Phosphate as P_2O_5	—	—	—
Silicate as SiO_2	6	9	4
Iron as Fe.	0.11	0.20	<0.04
Potassium as K	1.2	2.0	0.5
Sodium as Na.	11.4	14.4	8.6
Total solids dried at 105°C.	153	343	78
Conductivity (micromhos)	167	195	130

$<$ = less than. * = approximate.

Bacteriological Results

	Average	Maximum	Minimum
Colony count per ml. on yeast extract agar after 1 day at 37°C.	<1	3	Nil
Colony count per ml. on yeast extract agar after 2 days at 37°C.	2	22	Nil

Number of samples collected for Bacteriological analysis during the period	51
Number of samples showing **No** Presumptive coliform reaction per 100 mls.	46
Number of samples showing **No** reaction for **B.coli** (Type 1) per 100 mls.	48

THE TEES VALLEY AND CLEVELAND WATER BOARD

SCALING DAM FINAL

Summary of Analysis Results

1st January to 31st December, 1965

(Chemical results expressed as parts per million except where otherwise stated)

Chemical Results

	Average	Maximum	Minimum
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.175	0.450	0.023
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.012	0.160	0.040
Nitrite Nitrogen	<0.001*	0.002	<0.001
Nitrate Nitrogen	<0.25	<0.25	<0.25
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in 4 hours at 27°C.	1.7	2.4	1.1
Colour (Hazen)	9	25	5
Turbidity as Silica	2.3	8.2	1.0
pH	6.6	6.8	6.4
Free Carbon Dioxide	14	26	1.5
Alkalinity as $CaCo_3$	18	24	4
Carbonate Hardness as $CaCo_3$ ...	18	24	4
Non-Carbonate Hardness as $CaCo_3$ ...	45	68	35
Total Hardness as $CaCo_3$	63	72	52
Calcium Hardness as $CaCo_3$ ...	41	48	31
Magnesium Hardness as $CaCo_3$ ...	22	33	14
Chlorides as Cl.	22	25	17
Phosphate as P_2O_5	—	—	—
Silicate as SiO_2	2	5	<1
Iron as Fe.	0.12	0.36	<0.04
Potassium as K	1.2	2.7	0.4
Sodium as Na.	12.2	15.2	10.0
Total solids dried at 105°C. ...	146	160	110
Conductivity (micromhos) ...	181	210	140

< = less than. * = approximate.

Bacteriological Results

	Average	Maximum	Minimum
Colony count per ml. on yeast extract agar after 1 day at 37°C. ...	<1	10	Nil
Colony count per ml. on yeast extract agar after 2 days at 37°C. ...	5	74	Nil

Number of samples collected for Bacteriological analysis during the period	67
Number of samples showing **No** Presumptive coliform reaction per 100 mls.	67
Number of samples showing **No** reaction for **B.coli** (Type 1) per 100 mls.	67

THE TEES VALLEY AND CLEVELAND WATER BOARD

REDCAR FINAL

Summary of Analysis Results

1st January to 31st December, 1965

(Chemical results expressed as parts per million except where otherwise stated)

Chemical Results

	Average	Maximum	Minimum
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.086	0.265	0.007
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.099	0.185	0.030
Nitrite Nitrogen	0.001	0.002	<0.001
Nitrate Nitrogen	0.44	0.75	<0.25
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in 4 hours at 27°C.	1.0	1.9	0.7
Colour (Hazen)	13	30	5
Turbidity as Silica	2.4	9.5	0.7
pH	7.3	7.6	6.8
Free Carbon Dioxide	12	27	Nil
Alkalinity as $CaCo_3$	156	196	100
Carbonate Hardness as $CaCo_3$ ...	156	196	100
Non-Carbonate Hardness as $CaCo_3$ ...	253	280	172
Total Hardness as $CaCo_3$	409	460	292
Calcium Hardness as $CaCo_3$ ...	284	360	176
Magnesium Hardness as $CaCo_3$ ...	125	188	96
Chlorides as Cl.	34	41	26
Phosphate as P_2O_5	—	—	—
Silicate as SiO_2	10	12	8
Iron as Fe.	0.20	0.40	0.04
Potassium as K	3.0	4.0	1.8
Sodium as Na.	40	56	29
Total solids dried at 105°C. ...	681	784	404

$<$ = less than.

Bacteriological Results

	Average	Maximum	Minimum
Colony count per ml. on yeast extract agar after 1 day at 37°C. ...	<1	3	Nil
Colony count per ml. on yeast extract agar after 2 days at 37°C. ...	3	77	Nil

Number of samples collected for Bacteriological analysis during the period	51
Number of samples showing **No** Presumptive coliform reaction per 100 mls.	51
Number of samples showing **No** reaction for **B.coli** (Type 1) per 100 mls.	51

Bath Water Samples

During the year 29 samples were taken from the Baths. More samples were taken during the summer periods when it was found that the Baths were used to their capacity and I am pleased to report that all the samples taken were found to be satisfactory.

Samples are also taken periodically by the Baths' staff. Inspections were carried out throughout the year, both as regards cleanliness of the baths themselves and changing rooms and no complaints were found.

I must pay tribute to the way in which the staff of the Baths carry out their work as the condition of the Baths show that they take a pride in their work.

Ice Cream Manufacturers and Dealers

Ice cream trading throughout the town has increased compared with last year and every new trader that comes into the town is made aware of the code of practice for handling his equipment.

The use of the soft-served ice cream machine has caused problems as this was found to be partly made in registered premises and production was completed in vehicles previously used only for storage and sale. It is only by constant supervision and sampling of this type of ice cream that it can be kept up to the standards required and seeing that equipment and utensils used are properly sterilised at all times. Again, the question arises " What happens to the ice cream that it left at the end of the day when it leaves one Authority where the person is selling to return to where the vehicle is kept overnight ? " This is where the Corporation is helped by information passed on by one Health Inspector to another in the areas concerned. All mobile vans selling ice cream which come into your area are fully inspected and spot checks are taken on them after working hours.

Under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, all premises within the Borough used for the manufacture, sale and storage of ice cream have to be registered. The number on the register in the Borough of Redcar at the end of 1965 was 198.

During the year 154 samples were taken both from manufacturers and retailers throughout the town. Appended below are the results of this sampling :—

Grade 1 ...	106
Grade 2 ...	21
Grade 3 ...	16
Grade 4 ...	11

Under the same Act, premises which are used for the manufacture of fish cakes, sausage and potted meats have to be registered and the number on register is 30. During the year 82 inspections were carried out on these premises.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

Some difficulty was found under this Act in getting premises registered and either letters, telephone calls or visits had to be made to some occupiers. Time could have been saved if Registration forms had been returned to my office without delay.

Inspections have taken place throughout the year, on a limited scale due to lack of staff, and notices have been sent out to those premises which need attention to bring them up to the requirements of the Act. The number of premises inspected through the year was 419 but I do feel that more co-operation could have taken place between occupiers and my Department.

Shops within the Borough :—

Amusement Arcades	9
Bakers and Confectioners	18
Butchers	27
Catering Premises	34
Chemists	12
Cycles	3
Dairies	4
Departmental stores	6
Drapers and Wools	17
Dry Cleaners and Laundrettes	11
Fancy Goods and Toys	15
Fish Friers	14
Fish Mongers	3
Footwear Repairs	7
Footwear Sales	8
Fuel Merchants	5
Furniture and Furnishings	14
Greengrocer	19
Grocer	82
Hardware	9
Hairdresser (gents)	14
Hairdresser (ladies)	30
Jewellers	3
Newsagent, Tobacco, Stationery	28
Off Licence	13
Optician	6
Outfitters (gents)	13
Outfitters (ladies)	17
Paints and Paper	10
Petrol and Car Accessories	18
Pets	3
Radio and Electrical	12
Sweets and Tobacco	16
Wholesale Dealers	8
Miscellaneous	20
Licensed Premises	21
Total	549

Premises registered by end of year	403
Visits made	419

Defects found :—

Section 4	Cleanliness	33
Section 5	Overcrowding	1
Section 6	Temperature	54
Section 7	Ventilation	24
Section 8	Lighting	18

Section 9	Sanitary Conveniences	62
Section 10	Washing facilities	44
Section 12	Clothing Accommodation	10
Section 13/14	Seats	2
Section 15	Floors and stairs	21
Section 17	Fencing Machinery	16
Section 24	First Aid Provisions	37
	Total	322

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 — Rodent Control

We still employ one rodent operator to control the rats and mice in the town and also for sewer treatment. The public are still rat and mice minded and I am pleased to report that any signs of these pests are immediately reported to the office. The Ministry states that modern use and new methods of rat and mice control, if properly carried out, could lead to the elimination of these pests. The Infestation Council Ltd. is concerned with trying to discover the most efficient methods of achieving rat eradication, using the minimum of labour, to prove that their eradication is possible. Therefore, treatment must be quick, fast and effective, and as little delay should take place from receiving the report of rats or mice to the operator commencing treatment. It is obvious that infestations must be found before they can give rise to new rat infestations.

Again, I must stress that the keeping of records is an essential part of rat infestation treatment. Your Health Department receives full co-operation from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries as regards the sewer treatment which is carried out twice a year.

The following is a summary of sewer treatments :—

Total number of manholes baited during the two treatments	400
Number of poison takes	8
Number of partial poison takes	13

The following table shows the work carried out by your Rodent Operator :—

Number of Council houses dealt with for mice	30
Number of visits to Council houses for mice	347
Number of Council houses dealt with for rats	35
Number of visits to Council houses for rats	432
Number of private houses dealt with for mice	48
Number of visits to private houses for mice	567
Number of private houses dealt with for rats	76
Number of visits to private houses for rats	856
Number of business premises dealt with for mice	25
Number of visits to business premises for mice	558
Number of business premises dealt with for rats	27
Number of visits to business premises for rats	271
Number of visits involved in surface investigations for rats	631
Total Visits	3662

Summer Camps

There are still three summer camps in the Borough of Redcar, one on Redcar Lane, one near Warrenby and a third belonging to the Borough, west of Majuba. There has been, over the last few years, a phenomenal improvement in the design of caravans. The more one sees of mobile homes, the more one marvels at the ingenuity used in their construction. It is a pity that designers of houses do not show half as much originality. There are more than enough people to occupy caravans and some of them are far happier and lead a better life when the caravan site is residential than they could hope to lead in houses. This applies to 20% of those families occupying caravans.

The length of caravans indicates the trend towards more luxurious accommodation. Little has been done in the past on residential caravan sites to find out if a number of old-aged couples would be interested in a home in a caravan. Caravans for the old-aged pensioners would be ideal, especially where a site warden could look after their needs. The advantages of caravaning include economy, a healthy, open-air life, easy cleanliness and maintenance, independence, freedom and privacy.

The trailer caravan-touring, holiday or residential — has become an essential part of modern life. For Public Health and Planning authorities, the caravan presents both problems and opportunities. Certain authorities have laid down conditions on the number of people who should occupy caravans depending on the size. One of these is Worksop Borough Council and the other is Bingham (Notts.) Rural District Council who have laid down rules concerning the number of children who may reside in caravans.

Since local authorities are responsible for the control of private sites, their own should surely be models of perfection, and should not allow more than the permitted number.

The itinerant caravan dweller is a nuisance at all times. They spring up in the night ; they pitch their caravans just where they please and respect nobody's property. When they depart they leave behind them filth for others to clean up. More often than not converted van bodies are in use. The majority of the occupants are dirty and live with their families in squalor.

In addition to this, the fire hazard always exists. Their means of livelihood is as haphazard as their mode of living.

Included in this class are the gypsies and travellers. The title " gypsies " is a misnomer ; members of this ancient race can have little in common with the people who today despoil our countryside and thrive on scrap metal dealing and car breaking. Most people would be willing to tolerate these hangers-on to our civilization were it not for the intolerable nuisance caused by their filthy habits and rubbish heaps.

The claim that these people should be treated as human beings is fair, but recognition of humanity carries with it an obligation to comply with the social code.

These caravan dwellers obtain the sympathy of a number of well-meaning but unpractical people. Their intervention often only makes the work of the public health inspectors worse and responsible officers then have the job of cleaning up the mess at the ratepayers' expense. The remedy, it has been suggested, is to provide suitable sites and certainly no solution is likely unless it is enforced by Parliament.

The nomadic instinct is deeply ingrained in some people. It it were possible for these wanderers to acquire some measure of wealth and status, the social problem would disappear.

At present it is thought that many of the wanderers obtain a contribution to living expenses from the National Assistance Board, augmented by dealing and no longer is the manufacture of clothes pegs the staple craft ; the breaking up of cars is more remunerative.

Your three caravan sites in the town have been inspected regularly throughout the year in order to see that no-one is using these homes throughout the closed season. Very few complaints have been received as regards the running of the caravan sites or the people occupying them.

Disinfestation

During the year 18 complaints of infestation by insects were received and dealt with by your Department. Most of these were on Ings Farm and Lakes Estate, and were more of a nuisance than a pest. The method of treatment was by use of a new powder in place of D.D.T. liquid and this treatment was found to be very satisfactory.

Disinfection of Premises

I am pleased to report that no premises required disinfection after an infectious disease in the Borough for 1965.

Housing Inspections

Inspections of houses for the Housing Department were carried out by your Health Department as summarised below :—

Number of inspections for Selection list	44
Number of inspections for Classification of Houses ...	440
Number of inspections for Overcrowding	4

Places of Entertainment

General inspections were carried out in places of Entertainment throughout the town, but again I must reiterate both on behalf of the Medical Officer of Health and myself that owing to the shortage of staff the number of inspections made were not as many as we would like but if we do more inspections of places of entertainment other work would be neglected. This will only be rectified when another inspector is appointed.

Atmospheric Pollution

The chief industries within your Borough liable to cause pollution, in addition to houses, are set out below :—

	Sources of Pollution	Description of Pollution or Potential Pollution
1.	I.C.I. Works	Smoke and fumes.
2.	Dorman, Long & Co. Ltd.	Smoke, grit and fumes.
3.	School Chimneys	Smoke.

A smoke-free atmosphere helps to make everybody's life brighter, and everyone should welcome the country's progress towards clean air, and yet, as a nation, we are still firmly attached to the open fire not only

— or even perhaps mainly — for the heat it radiates but also for the welcoming centre it provides for the home in our damp winter climate — which explains why the spread of central heating emphatically does not mean the end of the open fire.

So it was logical, at the time of the Clean Air Act in 1956, that gas coke should have been considered the obvious fuel for the majority of hearth conversions in smoke-control areas. When burnt on improved open fires, designed to use the fuel to maximum effect, gas coke and the premium smokeless fuels such as Rexco and Coalite, Cleanglow and Phimax gave householders their open fire — only smokelessly, and gave them as well a higher level of efficiency — and therefore a better return for money expended than they ever had before.

What was not forseen in 1956 was that changes were imminent in gas production methods, changes away from the use of coal, the result being that at a time when more gas coke was needed by smoke-control areas, less was being produced, and the gap was not one which there was enough premium fuel to fill. Neverthless, hard coke (Sunbrite) is available in ample quantities, but the more expensive spaceheating appliances such as space heaters and underfloor draught fires, although capable of burning hard coke were not eligible for the full conversion costs.

The clean-air programme is now picking up again after a period of hesitation caused by the shortage of gas coke and the changes in policy, which involves local authorities in greatly increased expenditure.

Solid fuel interests are naturally doing everything possible to ensure their share of the market in smoke-control areas and collaborating wholeheartedly where they are established ; in some cases, canvassers are ensuring that householders are made aware that clean air does not mean the end of the solid-fuel fire ; even the modern room heater is glass-fronted giving a clear view of a real fire.

At the same time, producers of Coalite and Rexco are increasing production, and the National Coal Board's two new premium fuels — Homefire and Roomheat are coming on to the market in increasing quantities.

Although coke and other manufactured smokeless fuels are generally more expensive per ton than house coal, they burn with a higher efficiency in modern appliances and so, weight for weight, produce more heat. Some room heaters and open fires with high output back-boilers not only provide more direct heat for the room in which they are situated than an old-fashioned stool-bottomed grate, but also supply the house with hot water and run radiators for background central heating elsewhere.

Full central heating is growing enormously in popularity. Here again, solid fuel works hand in hand with the clean air programme. A kitchen boiler fired by solid smokeless fuel is an old-established favourite with the public and research is continually improving it.

The Clean Air Act of 1956 must stand as a mountain in the line of progress in freeing a large part of the British Isles from the evils of air pollution. It has given local authorities new and welcome powers to avoid air pollution as they had long ago given up the struggle against inadequate powers. It also introduced a new factor into the air pollution control area whereby the Alkali, etc., and Works Regulation Act, 1906, which controlled the emission of noxious or offensive smells from certain registered chemical processes was to be extended to include smoke, grit and dust from registered works.

From the point of view of the Local Authorities' work in the prevention of industrial pollution, it is certainly in the elimination of smoke that good progress has been made.

Industry in general has received the Clean Air Act willingly with a knowledge of what it is intended to do, but some sections have received it with indifference, and if a local authority is not keen to enforce it, then the factory management often will not bother.

Also far too much and unnecessary smoke emission occurs due to ignorance, carelessness and sheer thoughtlessness by plant operatives, coupled with indifference of management. Therefore, while appreciating the progress that has been made, let us remember that much still remains to be done about smoke emission.

Fortunately, many progressive firms in various industries are determined to be good neighbours with the local authority and in some areas and sections of industry much capital outlay has gone on arrestor plant, which is resulting in greater improvement of air conditions where factories and industries lie near to houses.

Smoke control cannot be undertaken without adequate professional and clerical staff. Present staff cannot deal with the considerable amount of clerical work involved in a smoke control survey. The first survey must be one hundred per cent efficient in order that the others that follow on will give the public confidence that smoke control carried out by the Health Department is up-to-date and is something worthwhile.

Warrenby—Industrial

1965	pH	Rainfall Litres	Undissolved Matter Tons per Sq. Mile	FE_2O_3 Tons per Sq. Mile	Mgms. of SO_3 per 100 sq. cms. per day
January	6.6	3.31	18.30	7.31	3.60
February	6.3	2.58	7.51	1.91	1.43
March	6.3	1.52	1.48	0.38	1.91
April	6.8	3.68	7.01	3.34	1.43
May	5.0	4.09	8.45	3.17	1.25
June	6.7	1.69	3.80	1.39	1.43
July	5.0	3.10	24.64	10.02	
August	6.7	3.19	20.90	8.55	1.17
September	5.8	8.24	9.28	4.07	1.21
October	6.8	2.17	9.55	1.84	1.69
November	5.5	9.35	12.40	4.66	1.17
December	6.6	2.12	15.03	6.01	2.13
TOTAL		45.04	138.35	52.65	18.42
Average 1955	6.21	1.21	10.51	3.43	
Average 1956	6.23	1.40	10.21	4.75	
Average 1957	6.36	1.54	10.24	6.15	2.43
Average 1958	6.35	0.96	6.90	2.15	2.21
Average 1959	6.65	1.21	8.62	2.43	1.97
Average 1960	6.12	3.77	9.48	2.94	2.24
Average 1961	6.1	2.55	8.40		2.13
Average 1962	6.57	2.18	14.95	3.62	1.33
Average 1963	6.025	2.85	13.89	3.55	1.72
Average 1964	6.2	2.35	11.44	3.94	1.67
Average 1965	6.2	3.75	11.53	4.39	1.53
Average 1955-59	6.36	1.26	9.30	3.78	
Average 1956-60	6.34	1.78	9.07	3.68	
Average 1957-61	6.31	2.00	8.66	3.42	2.2
Average 1958-62	6.36	2.13	9.60	2.79	1.2
Average 1959-63	6.30	2.51	11.00	3.14	1.9
Average 1960-64	6.20	2.74	11.57	3.51	1.8
Average 1961-65	6.20	2.74	12.40	5.17	1.7

Dormanstown—Semi-Industrial

1965	pH	Rainfall Litres	Undissolved Matter Tons per Sq. Mile	FE_2O_3 Tons per Sq. Mile
January ...	5.9	3.21	13.59	4.68
February ...	6.0	2.63	5.75	2.27
March ...	5.4	1.78	3.74	1.34
April ...	6.7	3.48	7.62	3.78
May ...	6.2	4.05	9.56	2.54
June ...	6.4	2.09	5.21	2.10
July ...	5.0	5.08	9.42	4.04
August ...	5.8	4.09	7.58	2.24
September	5.8	8.35	7.82	2.54
October ...	6.7	2.49	11.32	3.01
November ...	5.2	9.70	13.40	4.22
December ...	6.6	2.34	8.95	2.56
TOTAL		49.29	103.96	35.32
Average 1955	6.15	1.25	7.76	
Average 1956	6.5	1.24	8.48	
Average 1957	6.35	1.65	7.58	
Average 1958	6.51	1.77	8.68	
Average 1959	6.55	1.38	7.95	
Average 1960	6.1	4.15	8.02	
Average 1961	6.6	2.53	6.89	5.58
Average 1962	6.23	2.59	8.24	3.62
Average 1963	5.96	2.37	7.36	1.76
Average 1964	6.0	2.07	7.18	2.6
Average 1965	5.9	4.11	8.66	2.94
Average 1955-59	6.41	1.46	8.10	2.25
Average 1956-60	6.40	2.20	8.15	2.23
Average 1957-61	6.42	2.29	7.83	2.13
Average 1958-62	6.42	2.48	7.96	2.17
Average 1959-63	6.31	2.60	7.67	2.04
Average 1960-64	6.38	2.74	7.54	2.19
Average 1961-65	6.12	2.73	7.66	3.30

Average total solids for the town from 1952/1956—16.94 tons per sq. mile
Average total solids for the town from 1953/1957—16.72 tons per sq. mile
Average total solids for the town from 1954/1958—16.88 tons per sq. mile
Average total solids for the town from 1955/1959—17.43 tons per sq. mile
Average total solids for the town from 1956/1960—17.41 tons per sq. mile
Average total solids for the town from 1957/1961—16.95 tons per sq. mile
Average total solids for the town from 1958/1962—15.88 tons per sq. mile
Average undissolved matter for the town for 1963—10.63 tons per sq. mile
Average undissolved matter for the town for 1964— 9.31 tons per sq. mile
Average undissolved matter for the town for 1965—10.10 tons per sq. mile

pH Value—Expresses degree of alkalinity of water.
Below 7.0 shows acidity (represented by Coal, Tar, Phenols, etc.)
Above 7.0 shows alkalinity (Soda, Potash, Ammonia).

SMOKE CONCENTRATION, 1965

Site (B)—"TEESWOLD", COATHAM ROAD, REDCAR

Residential—Low Density Population

Microgrammes per Cubic Metre

	SMOKE			SULPHUR DIOXIDE		
Month	**Average Value**	**Highest Value**	**Lowest Value**	**Average Value**	**Highest Value**	**Lowest Value**
January ...	135	288	36	141	292	42
February ...	121	308	48	82	229	5
March ...	126	412	40	105	207	5
April ...	101	632	28	112	380	33
May	62	162	8	123	291	31
June	35	89	17	91	260	28
July	40	68	21	52	126	13
August ...	37	67	19	58	121	20
September ...	61	182	21	85	166	14
October ...	117	321	10	131	253	27
November ...	111	287	27	103	219	46
December ...	146	332	44	144	220	80

SITE (B)—MERSEY ROAD GARAGE, REDCAR

Residential—Low Density Population

SMOKE—Microgrammes per Cubic Metre

Month	**Average Value**	**Highest Value**	**Lowest Value**
January	147	324	52
February	156	260	84
March	146	348	32
April	121	372	52
May	84	148	40
June	51	107	15
July	55	115	18
August	44	156	17
September	57	112	21
October	95	205	9
November	75	129	11
December	—	—	—

SITE (B)—JOHN E. BATTY SCHOOL, REDCAR

Residential—Low Density Population

SMOKE—Microgrammes per Cubic Metre

Month	Average Value	Highest Value	Lowest Value
January	127	376	40
February	121	268	34
March	117	280	32
April	89	252	4
May	55	121	39
June	32	75	8
July	49	86	21
August	—	—	—
September	59	138	22
October	93	265	33
November	122	225	20
December	124	246	25

SITE (A)—NORTH EASTERN ELECTRICITY BOARD, LORD STREET, REDCAR

Residential—High Density Population

SMOKE—Microgrammes per Cubic Metre

Month	Average Value	Highest Value	Lowest Value
January	193	496	40
February	160	416	36
March	224	488	44
April	143	484	24
May	116	244	22
June	45	86	21
July	55	102	16
August	65	123	26
September	115	266	13
October	191	348	36
November	195	728	52
December	245	546	88

Meat and Food Inspection

Food premises throughout the town are inspected during the year but not to the satisfaction that I would like. It has been reported to the Health Committee that, owing to the lack of staff, it is impossible to make as many inspections as should take place, especially as Redcar is a seaside town. Until extra staff is obtained, such important work as food inspection and food hygiene supervision cannot be placed on a proper footing.

At a time when staffs are insufficient, when food handling cannot be efficiently safeguarded, and local authorities can do nothing about it owing to lack of staff, it is found that the Public Health Department has other new and important duties thrust upon it. One of these is one hundred per cent meat inspection to test meat to see if it is safe to sell.

The elasticity of the Inspector's physical abilities is limited. The one and same answer is an increase in staff, both technical and clerical.

In addition to food premises, boarding-houses should be inspected more than they are. This again is due to the lack of staff. Too frequently one finds that this or that important branch of environmental hygiene has only been possible at the expense of food hygiene. Some yard-stick must be used sooner or later, and the passing of Acts of Parliament and bringing in regulations will never ensure that food supplies are clean or pure.

Food hygiene lectures, I am sorry to say, have not received as much support from the food traders in Redcar as they should have done. At one time, the committee may remember, we had a very healthy interest in a number of food lectures which were well supported by the food traders of this town. This I am sorry to say, has gradually disappeared. Food hygiene lectures have their value but too often it is a case of trying to educate the uneducated, and sometimes it is preaching to the converted. Real, lasting education can follow the visit of an inspector who can often pinpoint the problems as they occur.

The root cause of disinterest in food lectures must be apathy. Apathy not just among the public but among the food handlers as well. With so many other attractions, they are not just interested enough to attend something where they are not going to get anything.

The man in the street resents any suggestions that he is being talked down to or educated, unless he can have this on his own terms.

Perhaps, as I have suggested before, food hygiene should be taught in schools and lectures given by Public Health Inspectors. The Public Health Inspector will be getting the facts of good hygiene over to the younger generation. This is, in truth, a reminder to the Public Health Inspectors that they need to understand all the food trades and all the food processes and techniques very thoroughly. It is a true saying that one cannot hope to control the actions of any trader on detail without being completely aware why that detail arises.

Many local authorities appoint specialized officers for food hygiene, but this decision must, therefore, be local. The methods used to put across food hygiene principles can only be successfully applied if they are absolutely tailored to fit local needs. Errors in food hygiene due to staffing ignorance can only be remedied by planned training so that all are aware of the nature of the food they are handling and the necessary precautions that must be taken.

It is absolutely necessary to let every housewife know that her kitchen standards must mirror her shopping standards and her shopping standards mirror her kitchen habits for all the world to see.

Appended below will be found a list of condemnations which have been made during the year 1965:—

	lbs.
Miscellaneous tinned food	127
Fish	138
Vegetables	180
Beef	63
Defrosted foods	376 pkts.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN 1965

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	209	—	62	985	856	—
Number inspected	209	—	62	985	856	—
All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci						
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2	—	1	7	14	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	1	—	.62	.7	1.7	—
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	2	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	.24	—
Cysticercosis						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with cysticercosis	—	—	—	—	—	—

FRESH MEAT CONDEMNATIONS DURING 1965

Reason for Condemnation	BEASTS		PIGS		SHEEP		CALVES		TOTAL
	Carcases	Offal	Carcase	Offal	Carcase	Offal	Carcase	Offal	
	lbs.		lbs.		lbs		lbs		lbs.
Angioma	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Abscess	—	10	—	18	—	—	—	—	28
Actinomycosis	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	6
Cirrhosis	—	—	—	18	—	9	—	—	27
Decomposed	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	6
Fluke	—	4	—	—	—	2	—	—	6
Nephritis	—	—	—	13¼	—	—	—	—	13¼
Tuberculosis	—	—	—	28	—	—	—	—	28
Urticaria	—	—	—	34	—	—	—	—	34
	—	14	—	117¼	—	17	—	2	150¼

Number of animals killed — 2,112.

Slaughterhouses.

Public Slaughterhouses	Nil
Other Slaughterhouses	1
Number of inspections	408

There is still only one private slaughterhouse in the area. One hundred per cent inspection takes place throughout the area, sometimes on a Saturday and always on a Bank Holiday Monday.

Clean, disease-free meat is worthwhile to the ratepayer even though a well-gnawed mutton-bone in the dustbin is less monumental than, say, a multi-storey block of flats.

Livestock has to be received, housed, fed and watered and the responsibility for their safe-keeping has to be established and put into effect. Care of livestock, whilst waiting to be slaughtered, is an integral part of the business. At the same time, with the propensity for noise and escape which is inherent in animals, this may be the most delicate point of public relations. This is also probably the most costly part of the slaughterhouse's activities—hence the temptation to skimp, resulting in poor premises and indifferent performance.

By its nature, slaughtering is a nasty, wet, uncomfortable job and amenities such as clothes-drying facilities are less sops to comfort than aids to output. Much of the work carried out in public slaughterhouses is done without the actual employer ever being present. To some extent he relies on the local authority's supervision to take care of his interests.

The slaughtering process should be thought of as a thoroughly environmental problem. In suitable climatic conditions, the process can be carried out hygienically. However, in a country like ours with a moist, mild climate and an atmosphere saturated with pollution, some protection of the process becomes necessary, and with the available resources of modern technology, the object of the slaughterhouse design should be to create an environment in which food animals can be humanely, efficiently and hygienically processed into meat. Those in the meat trade regard the subject of meat inspection as one of paramount importance and one hundred per cent meat inspection has the full support of the National Federation of Meat Traders' Association. It is also of utmost importance to the individual butcher, inasmuch as the confidence of his customers is assured when he or she is consciously purchasing a commodity free from any disease factor.

Gone are the days when condemnations took place on a high scale, owing to the incidence of tuberculosis in both cattle and pigs, resulting in heavy financial losses to the trade and customers.

Since the introduction of the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, vast progress has been made in abattoir construction and in the steps taken to ensure observation of hygienic standards. Many new and improved slaughterhouses have been constructed by private enterprise at a considerable financial cost. Meat inspection has become one of grave concern to the meat trader because he has to pay for this being carried out by local authorities. To this end, therefore, there needs to be the utmost co-operation between those who operate slaughterhouses and those whose job is inspection. I believe that throughout the country there exists an understanding of each other's problems. It is only in this way that success can be attained.

Basically slaughterhouses are food-processing establishments. The process itself is such that in the interest of public health there is need for control at all stages. The role of the Public Health Inspector is, therefore, all-embracing.

The task of the public health inspector may be considered under three separate headings:—

(1) preventing nuisance and health hazards that might arise from the nature of the business;

(2) ensuring by inspection that meat is fit for human consumption;

(3) ensuring that good hygiene practices prevail throughout.

The public health inspector enters the slaughterhouse to ensure that meat reaches the public fit for human consumption. This he does in two ways: his first task is the exercise of his knowledge and skill to ensure that all meat is inspected and dealt with in accordance with the Regulations of 1963, and, secondly, to see that the proper construction, equipment, techniques, storage and transport of all meat leaving the premises for human consumption is not only fit but free from any contamination.

In achieving this, he will automatically achieve a further end of preventing a public nuisance.

Mobile Shops.

Mobile shops are sometimes used by the "blue-eyed boys of the trading world" or more precisely, the mobile food traders. Whilst it must be agreed that they provide a valuable service, particularly in rural areas, there seems to be very little reason for their being exempt from so many of the provisions which govern the activities of the trader occupying shop premises. Public health inspectors have for a long time been concerned at the lower standards required of mobile food shops and canteens and would welcome a further tightening up of legislation. It is true that the Food Hygiene Regulations of 1955 improved food standards slightly.

One way of obtaining better service and hygiene from these would be to have all mobile shops registered by the local authority.

The genuine mobile food shop constructed for the purpose, has become a construction of hygienic efficiency offering in addition to all its hygienic advantages, increased sales opportunities to its owner.

We still have to deal with the so-called "mobile food stall" which represents an anachronism in these hygiene-conscious days and which seems to be diminishing at a rate out of harmony with the needs of our times.

It is usually found that the better vehicle operates from established and reputable premises; the other, being more frequently the project of the back street trader who has the misfortune of trading from undesirable premises.

Until some registration is brought in by the Ministry concerned, that of mobile shops usually comes under the same law as food shops, very little improvement will be seen in this type of shop. There is no reason why the closing hours should not be the same.

Hairdressers and Barbers.

Now that the hairdresser and barbers shops through the town are required to adhere to the Byelaws according to the Public Health Act, 1961, governing the instruments and equipment, your Health Department has had to deal out much needed education on this point. Throughout the town it was found that your Health Department received unceasing co-operation from all hairdressers and barbers. There are still men and women carrying on hairdressing in their own or customers' homes and this is considered unfair competition. Unless such persons are employed full time, it seems no action can be taken against them. Nevertheless, there are dangers arising from such practices, even though these persons may have the power to refuse any unwelcome clients. Perhaps, in the near future, the Ministry will think fit to bring this type of hairdressing into line with the rest.

Litter.

Litter is one of our biggest problems, especially in the summer months when The Esplanade, the streets leading from the front, the High Street and Lord Street are bad examples of this practice.

Litter is, of course, a way in which people most easily demonstrate good or bad behaviour. Well-designed litter bins, strongly fixed, of sturdy construction and in full view of the public are likely to be used and not abused. They should be cleared regularly because if they are not, they become a prey to vandals. There should be a good relationship between Local Authorities, the housholder and smaller firms in relation to litter.

It is found that mattresses, bedding, furniture, etc., the discarded possession of householders and, in some cases, rubbish dumped by builders on waste land, etc., could have been removed by my Department or by the owner by the free use of the Tip on the Trunk Road.

There is no adequate estimate of what the national cost of the litter campaign is, but in some cases it has been placed as high as £11m. It is fairly certain that there is a general awakening of conscience in this respect but the path to a litter-free country is a long one.

Perhaps it is not sufficiently known to the public that there is a free service given by your Health Department for the removal of mattresses, beds, etc., and, therefore, it is probably the easiest way for people to do the wrong thing and dump the rubbish wherever they think fit. If litter were swept away and everyone became paragons of tidiness overnight, the result of spick and span towns and countryside would do a good deal to cure vandalism, but it cannot be too strongly emphasized that environment influences us strongly.

In Switzerland, the part of the country and factory stations not visited by the tourists are spotless, and it is a national trait for them to be clean and tidy. They take a great national pride in their tidiness and have very little vandalism.

Many steps have been taken to get the public to use litter bins by television programmes, but in my opinion, these are put on too late at night, also anti-litter campaigns and notices in the Press, but still we get this disgrace of seeing paper, etc., defiling our seafront and streets. The only way to keep it in the minds of the public is to make the children litter conscious and to bring it home to their parents and it is reasonable to expect that eventually we can reach, with great effort, the standards of cleanliness as in the Scandinavian countries.

Perhaps a final exhortation to the public could be:

"Leave it in the litter bin,
If You don't it is a sin.
Take it home if you will,
This could help reduce the bill.
Everyone should see the folly,
Ratepayers, remember, find the lolly.

Probably not enough publicity is given when one of these litter louts is brought before the Magistrate to be fined for the dropping of litter, and it has been said that Britain is in the running for becoming one of the dirtiest countries in the world. People do not drop litter out of malice or with criminal intention, but merely often through thoughtlessness. The answer could be to have litter wardens doing a similar job to traffic wardens.
Where this has been tried there has been a definite improvement in the amount of litter dropped.

Noise.

Nothing is more complex than the world of sound. In a nutshell, sound is the effect of air pressures set up by a vibrating object affecting the ear; this is, in turn, being registered by the brain. The same sound which gives pleasure to some people may drive others to distraction. Nor is it the loudness of sound in every case that may cause pleasure or displeasure—a ticking clock, or a running tap can, in some cases, ruin a night's sleep, but often certain degrees of loudness of noise can cause annoyance, and it is at this stage that one usually refers to sounds as "noise."

In general, the sounds of nature are pleasant, but a great deal can and must be done to abolish unnecessary and unreasonable noises from man-made appliances. This was done by Shoreditch MBC when they said that a clause should be inserted in all future works contracts in order to limit the noise from road-breaking equipment. It was found that by using muffle covers the noise was reduced but the efficiency of the machine in the work done was lowered. Much has yet to be done in this important field of public health. Many mistakes may be made and much will be learnt therefrom. The need to pay more attention to noise problems is becoming more generally accepted.

Noise has not an equal impact on all individuals, but a considerable portion of people are affected. As the intensity of noise increases, the point is reached when it becomes a serious factor in preventing normal enjoyment of a residential area. A great deal of the research at the present time is going on in various parts of the world into this matter and an adequate technical basis should be forthcoming in determining how far away from a motorway of a given size, development should be allowed.

Noise, of course, must be considered separately in relation to different kinds of buildings. Residential buildings deserve special forms of planning control to mitigate noise nuisance. Schools and all educational establishments are another important category, but multi-storey car parks could well be placed close to noise generators in order to act as buffers.

Noise is used to draw attention to anything which has or is about to go wrong. The modern generation has become noise conscious and, therefore, it is not surprising that a measure of criticism has been brought against refuse collection from those people who are trying to relieve the world of some of its noises. It would be silly to claim that the dustbin and its lid are not guilty. The wind can often blow a loose-fitting lid and bins are often dragged and banged during the process of emptying. The answer to obviate this would be the use of paper sacks. Much of the onus of noise rests with industry and much can be done to eliminate this nuisance to the public concerned. The only way that noise can be controlled is at the source, and there is an appalling disregard for sound in relation to some of the plans that are deposited with local authorities, and in all probability the misunderstandings about how to control sounds are to blame. We have had more complaints about noise nuisance in 1965 from different sources than in previous years, so it does show that the public is at last getting noise conscious.

Refuse Disposal.

Your refuse disposal is still being carried out on both the north and south sides of the Trunk Road, Redcar. The north side is land belonging to Dorman, Long & Co. Ltd. and the south side belonging to the Borough. Rubbish can only be tipped when there has not been excessive rain as this land is liable to flooding. The two machines used are the International Crawler Drott and David Brown for levelling and dumping, and we are still using an old refuse wagon for the carrying of soil, etc., for use as covering material.

Controlled tipping fluctuates considerably by reason of the nature of the refuse as it seems to be getting lighter in volume from year to year. The amount of refuse tipped during the year was 11,200 tons.

In your refuse each year, it is found that more and more plastic bottles are being brought to the Tip from refuse bins. These are one of the most difficult things to destroy and as I said in my last year's Report, the time has come when some other means of tipping will have to be sought as against the present method of controlled tipping. Already meetings have taken place with other authorities on Tees-side to discuss this matter to see what solution can be found.

The basic factors of refuse disposal are the same all the world over, but the problem has a number of facets, and the details vary from climate to climate, country to country and even town to town. In a cold climate refuse is likely to contain a high proportion of ash; in the warmer climates, where artificial heating is not required, this will be absent.

Perhaps the words "controlled tipping" are out-of-date and this should now be called "land reclamation." All persons responsible for controlled tipping must regard it is an engineering project, requiring the strictest operation at all times as the satisfaction coming from controlled tipping definitely depends on the staff employed to do it.

One of the main difficulties on the Tip is vandalism and interferences by persons unkown, but recently it was found that the problem of vandalism has been greater than it had been for some years. Perhaps the greatest and most costly nuisance, though largely restricted to the spring and summer months, was the lighting of Tip fires.

Disposal of refuse by tipping is the most widely practised method used by local authorities today. Refuse is a by-product of living and the problems associated with it become more accentuated as man herds together in large communities. Fortunately the work involved has been looked upon by most councils as an unavoidable necessity which must be done with the minimum amount of work. To do the work efficiently means expenditure on a reasonable scale with no visible result, in many instances, for some years.

The first lesson to be learnt is that land reclamation is not a cheap method of disposal. Money must be spent on suitable machinery, equipment, covering material and soiling.

To balance this expense is the fact that a valuable contribution has been made to the nation's economy by bringing land back into cultivation or by creating an asset such as a sports field.

Refuse Collection.

The refuse collection fleet consists of the following vehicles:—

Registration No.	Age
AAJ.356B	1½ years
851.BVN	3½ years
67.AVN	4¼ years
YPY.833	4½ years
WPY.171	5½ years
UAJ.18	6½ years
LAJ.539	13½ years

There is something fundamentally wrong in the business of recruiting refuse collectors, as few young men are volunteering for the job. Of those who do, the majority are very unsuitable physically, or enter the service uninformed (to put it politely) and they soon leave. Among the recently recruited whom I have just mentioned, the longest stayer has been 10 weeks.

In my opinion, the biggest obstacle to getting the right type of man is undoubtedly the stigma attached to the job, the stigma of being a scavenger. Deep are the roots of prejudice and deny it as one may, a dustman is still almost an outcast. Another aspect when one considers recruitment is the complete absence of prospects. A dead-end job will not attract younger men and under the present system, a dustman is condemned for life as promotion in this field is almost out of the question.

Unless something is done to correct the image that is presented to the public, the whole system is in grave danger of breaking down.

The general approach to the labour recruitment problem in refuse collection is "more money for more work." This is sound enough, but in the years to come even high wages will not overcome the stigma attached to the job. The basically simple task of collection is fast becoming one of the most complex through lack of staff.

The whole problem requires re-thinking, and new methods must be evolved to deal with the problem. Men work for money, and money may be the answer. In the near future we may well see the wages of refuse collectors rise to £25 per week. Many areas are having to consider £20 a week now. This is due to incentive bonuses paid by other industries.

The work of refuse collection is grim and unattractive, and without some form of incentive and in times of full employment, as at present, it is impossible to maintain sufficient staff. Also to be taken into consideration is the complete change in the type of refuse and the influence of factors of weight and density. Economic pay-loads are an aspect which cannot be divorced from consideration of vehicle requirement. This should be more evident if waste paper continues to increase in quantity indefinitely. Refuse collection could not be studied adequately without some research into possible methods of reducing refuse to a minimum by destruction on the premises.

It is an accepted fact that in the years ahead it will become more difficult to find workmen to undertake the laborious and dirty work of emptying refuse bins. As recruits become more difficult to find, incentives and inducements must be increased so that refuse may be collected at least weekly. If there is any delay beyond seven days, the ratepayers quickly make their protest, regardless of whether it is due to labour disputes or to lack of men or machines.

As yet, there is no substitute for the man who walks from the front to the back of the house, carries, rolls or trucks a refuse bin and contents, often weighing half a cwt. or more to the kerb-side and empties and carries it back again. This apparently simple procedure involves the officer responsible for refuse collection in unceasing criticism. In many cases, the result is a decline in the level of cleanliness and courtesy, which was once the pride of the service. Yet, this is a service which above all others, presents to the ratepayers an image of local government, or "they" in the town halls up and down the country.

The dustbin has changed little in appearance and has withstood the test of time. This may well be responsible for the impression that it is outmoded and not in keeping with modern requirements.

The expendable paper sack has aroused considerable public interest. In fact, it is the only new refuse receptable to seriously challenge the conventional dustbin. Paper sacks are said to have qualities over other methods of waste collection and disposal because they offer a higher standard of hygiene, quieter and cleaner conditions, economy of labour and transport, and no bin cleaning for the housewife. There is a danger to the refuse collector when picking up sacks containing sharp objects and also a possibility of injury to children running into a sack or holder where such objects have been placed. Dustbins cannot be filled beyond the limit of their capacity and additional refuse either overflows or requires a temporary container. When a paper sack is filled, it is simply changed for a new one.

As I have stated previously, we are engaged in a constant struggle to maintain regular collection of refuse from residents due to labour shortages and traffic congestion. The labour shortage can be partly solved with the provision of better working conditions and higher wages, provided that the Local Authority is willing and able to improve the financial burden.

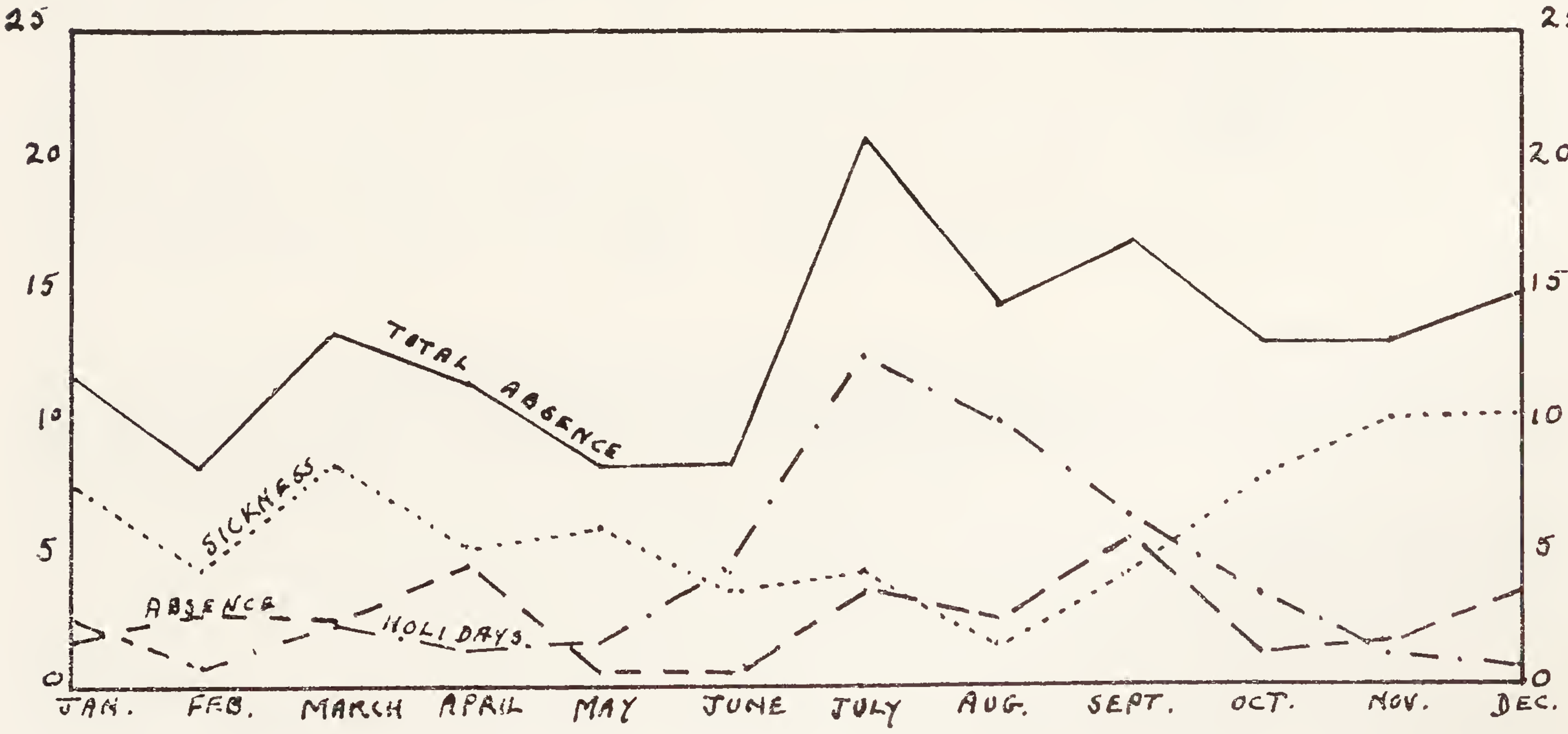
Traffic congestion is more of a general problem. It is made worse by all-day and all-night parking in residential areas. Many residential roads have no restrictions and parking is allowed on both sides. Thus, whilst refuse collection is taking place, a road may be blocked with other traffic for a considerable time with consequent altercation, delays and general frustration.

In the building of new housing estates, the needs of refuse collection services must be considered with close co-operation in the design stage between architects, planners and those responsible for cleansing. In the past, the question of storage of refuse had been disregarded in the building process and this has led to controversy at a later date.

The health aspect is particularly important; it should appeal to the architect at the planning stage and not be left until the building is completed. To consider the correct storage and positioning of housing could be advantageous over a long period, rather than an ill-conceived and inconsidered storage and positioning. In addition to this, the refuse collectors should be moulded to the necessary requirements. There was little fame in being a refuse collector for the majority were content to carry out their duties within their physical and mental capabilities without asking more than a fair share of everyday life; but this should not detract from the importance of the work they carry out. Like many other services in Local Government, if it were not for these people, the wheels of civilization would not turn easily.

Throughout the year refuse collection in the Borough has been very difficult, due to the changeover of men from week to week and month to month. The turnover for 1965 must be at least in the 50 to 60% range, and the only way that you recognise men working in the Public Health Department on refuse collection is by the green clothes they wear. Unless better wages and incentive bonus schemes are brought in, I can see that in the near future the question of refuse collection in all Local Authorities is going to be very serious indeed.

REFUSE COLLECTION 1965. TIME LOST %



Salvage.

Salvage throughout the town is still being collected by means of trailers attached to each vehicle and the Scammell with two trailers is being used for the collection of salvage from shops. Nevertheless, I must again stress that too much paper is being placed in dustbins. The buyers of waste paper are clamouring for more waste paper and cardboard from each local authority throughout Great Britain, and even an increase in price has been allocated for these commodities. Waste paper obviously takes up much room on a refuse disposal tip. What an advantage it would be if this could be eliminated from disposal sites. Existing waste paper collection accounts for only a small fraction of the paper disposed of; the rest is largely too soiled or contains too many contraries to make re-use easy, but the problem is not insuperable.

Separation at source of all salvageable materials has never been entirely satisfactory. This was far better during the war period when householders were asked to separate bottles, tins, paper, etc. The demand for waste paper falls short of the supply and demand is increasing from year to year. The most valuable part of your salvage comes from business premises which have been asked to co-operate in keeping salvage separate, thus making collection easier and quicker throughout the town. In most cases this request has been fully adhered to. In others it has meant re-visiting and a lot of persuasion to get the person concerned to agree to this practice.

Your salvage baler is of a continuous type and has been used throughout the past twelve months with very little trouble. Again, we are finding it very difficult to obtain labour to work this machine or even workers in the Salvage Department.

Below will be found a list of amounts of salvageable materials sold by your Health Department during the last twelve months:—

	Tons	cwts.	qtrs.	£	s.	d.
Mixed paper	630	10	1	5,467	6	2
Cardboard	16	7	0	147	3	0
Newspaper	102	2	3	919	4	9
Scrap	8	4	1	25	16	3
Rags	12	17	2	201	1	6
Lead		2	1	6	0	0
	770	4	0	6,766	11	8

Snow Clearing.

Snow clearing was again carried out by your Health Department with the help of the personnel of the Engineering and Parks Departments during falls of snow from the 28th February to the 3rd March. Every morning the decision is taken as to where the men can best be employed during the day with their equipment, such as snowploughs, gritters, etc.,and I am pleased to state that this method of working was found to be satisfactory.

All the snow ploughs are overhauled during the summer and are kept in readiness so that they can be used on the roads immediately they are needed.

There was complete co-operation in your Department between foremen and workers. Great stress must be laid on the part played by the Engineering and Parks Departments as, without their support, I feel that this work could not have been carried out. In addition, snow was cleared away from areas where old-aged people live and around hospitals, etc. Salt was used by the Engineers' Department in conjunction with grit and I still feel that one hundred per cent snow clearing could be attained by the use of ploughs and gritters on the main roads. The use of salt for snow-clearing purposes is dearer, but there is not the need to clear up salt as there is with grit.

On the footpaths the small snow plough was used as well as the new type of scrapers, which you allowed me to purchase last year, and these were found to be very satisfactory in the clearing of snow from footpaths, together with a saving in time. The use of the small plough on the Lewin Orderly for channels was very effective indeed.

In snow-clearing it should not be necessary to compare financial implications with possible loss of life, for the main roads throughout the town must be kept open regardless of cost.

A point which will have to be watched in cases of heavy snow, when all building firms are unable to work, is that the authority does not receive an unbalanced proportion of men and vehicles as hand loading of snow is not economical. The better method is to hire one loading machine which could keep three lorries going continuously. The lorries concerned should be of a large capacity, one to give some traffic control protection and one to clear up behind the loading machine.

Each snow plough in the Department was given an area which was planned beforehand, and thus none of the roads were missed. Priority has always been given to the main roads in and out of the town. Route cards were issued to the drivers on each route so that there could be no mistake whatsoever. When going to the extremities of the Borough, perhaps more co-operation with adjoining authorities could be obtained as most boundaries occur at places where it is impossible to turn or reverse gritting and snow-clearing equipment and it is quite unthinkable that one should plough a great well of snow to the boundary and then leave it there for the next authority to deal with.

There is a great deal of clearing up to be done at the end of any period of frost and snow. This applies not only to physical tasks such as clearing grit from channels, maintenance tasks on equipment and replenishing stocks of materials and the gradual process of getting the Department back into its normal routine of working but also the settling of accounts.

Safety measures apply to other road users, as well as to personnel engaged on gritting and snow-clearing and in this respect it is advisable to give as much warning to other road users as possible of gritting and snow-clearing operations.

This could be done by suitable notices put up on the vehicles during daylight and hazard markings on the rear of vehicles are also very effective. In addition, the snow-ploughing machines may now carry the approved amber flashing lights. Of all the available means of attracting the attention of other road users, the amber flashing light is no doubt the most effective, but it is also the most common. The most important safety precaution for operatives must be in all cases to see that they do not fall off moving vehicles when feeding trailer gritters.

Welfare of operatives is extremely important and can save money, because gritting and snow-clearing operations very quickly increase absence through sickness if welfare is not considered. They should also be provided with the correct protective clothing for the job they are doing.

Weather conditions cannot be correctly foreseen, mechanical breakdowns cannot be ruled out and availability and type of manpower can greatly affect efficiency.

Good relations with workmen are the best insurance that they will report for duty and accept their responsibility to the public and road users. Time spent discussing snow clearing with the workmen is time well spent and useful suggestions can be obtained from such discussions. If workmen are aware that efforts are being made to improve a service, and if they see new and efficient labour-saving equipment being introduced, they are more likely to co-operate willingly under the circumstances than if they feel they are simply part of a run-down machine.

In organizing snow-ploughing, etc., the person concerned must have reasonable working conditions and equipment to enable the organization to operate.

Street Cleansing

With the development of new houses there is the concentration of population with its inevitable additional litter, but in place of the comparatively narrow streets and passages in which litter and natural fouling is confined, there are the courtyards, lawns and shrubberies which are vastly more difficult to control especially in windy conditions.

These characteristics need a new approach as regards street sweeping and the opportunity is being taken by your Department to experiment with new systems and equipment.

In calculating the behaviour pattern of litter and the work of the manual sweeper, it is all too obvious that the traditional tools-brush, shovel and street orderly truck—are inadequate, although it must immediately be said that the only means of removing heavy fouling from pavements, etc., is still by their use.

The effective working time of the street orderly worker is reduced by the constant need to return to his barrow and this means that walking time is in excess of working time no matter how effectively the work is planned. It is necessary for him to sweep to a point at which the litter can be lifted and deposited in the bins, and even though he may work towards his truck to reduce the period between collecting and lifting, wind and traffic may cause some to escape.

During sweeping in dry weather dust is raised, only to drop somewhere else, and in wet weather a thin slime covers the footpaths.

There is no work in the municipal sphere which appears to carry such a heavy stigma. In periods of full employment, which we have at present the strength of street-sweeping staffs is too frequently maintained by the engagement of men of poor physical quality, because more suitable men will not accept the work. We know it to be an important civic function in which the interested man takes pride in the maintenance of his area. There are many thousands of people engaged in cleansing activities throughout the country, in offices, workshops, warehouses, railway stations, etc., who have a high degree of pride in the essential work of maintaining good appearance, increasing safety, providing for healthy conditions and improved amenity. Nearly all these people are properly equipped and their job highly mechanized. It is a very real belief that, properly and smartly clothed and equipped with the right tools, status can be raised.

The benefit to be realised is reduction in non-productive work, cleaner and more effective cleansing; an increase in status, an ability to attract a higher standard of employee, the removal of drudgery and frustration from an unrewarding task.

It may be that these are considered to be too idealistic, unrealisable preaching. Until they are tried and properly measured we will not know, and the time is ripe to try them.

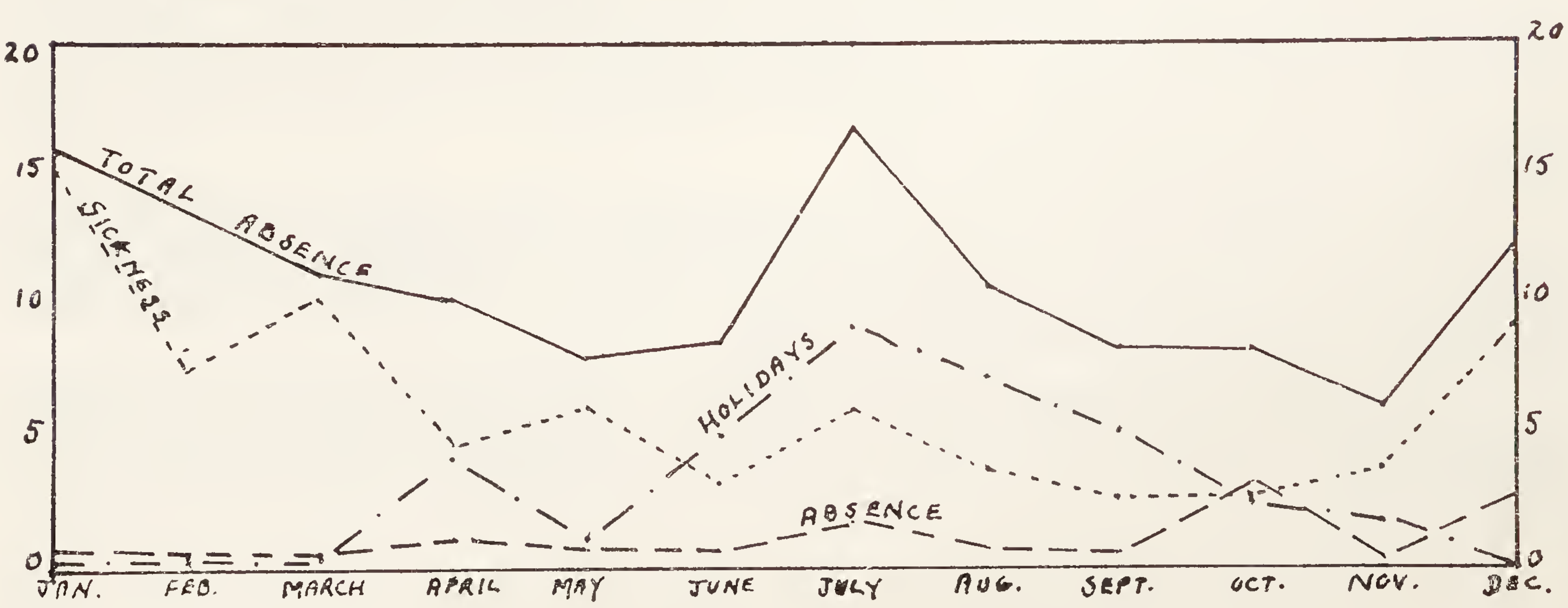
During the last few years the improvement in building, education, highways, street lighting, housing and general amenity must be matched by an equal improvement in the condition of the "shop window" of any local authority—its streets. Perhaps by example a greater consciousness of the stupidity of creating litter will be aroused in the public mind.

The right tool for the job is an age-old maxim never more apt than when the Health Department allowed me to purchase the Debris - Vac Sweeper, an efficient vacuumized sweeping unit which must be regarded as having specialized uses. This machine is used on the Promenade and wide areas of pavement, where it is given the chance to prove the power and efficiency of surface cleansing which it possesses.

A virtual one hundred per cent efficiency results with a relatively dust-free atmosphere. Exercising sanity in use, in other words not expecting normal results at times when rain is falling and surfaces are under water, a clean, dry quality swept surface remains. Providing that this new thinking embraces a realisation that no job can be properly undertaken without the right equipment, and that it always costs money, there need be no intensity of problem. Although mechanical sweeping is less costly than the manual method, the brush cost can be high, and the amount of work done by these machine far outclasses that done by the gang method.

Your local authority have the following machines in use for the cleansing of streets and pavements, etc.,—

	Age: years	Age: months
1 Karrier Sweeper	13	
1 Lewin Sweepmaster	4	
I Lewin Orderly	9	
1 Johnston Suction Sweeper	2	
1 Stokvis Sweeper	2	
1 Debris Vac.		6


STREET SWEEPING 1965. TIME LOST %

Weeding

The nuisance of weeds is not new. Weeds have always created problems in one way or another, and will no doubt continue to do so, but some developments of overcoming weeds are new and there is no denying that great advances have been made in this respect in recent years.

The control of weeds by chemical methods has been described as one of the outstanding developments of the twentieth century. One example with which we are all familiar is the growth of weeds through tarmacadam and asphalt within a few weeks or months of the surface being laid. Many local authorities plan some form of weed control in their general maintenance budget. Others let well alone until the "customer" complains before taking any action, but there is always a weed problem to be solved by one method or another.

The removal of weeds by hand was at one time the most common solution, and gangs of men were employed for long periods each year. This method is now very much out of date because of changed circumstances, and in particular because the present rate of wages make the method quite uneconomical, even if labour were available for the work. At the same time, the source of growth was hardly ever completely removed; and if it were, surfaces and joints were damaged as a result.

Flame guns have been used but this is not a satisfactory method of weed eradication as it is slow, tedious and rarely gets down to the root of the trouble, and there is also the hazard of fire risk to garden fences.

Common salt has been used from time to time, presumably because it is cheap, but it is not an effective weed killer and the cost of its application, together with the mess it leaves might be very unsuitable for this purpose.

Several chemicals are being used for the control of weeds, principally arsenic, phenols and sodium chloride. Weed control is carried out in two stages. First of all, existing weeds must be eliminated and from then on, it is simply a question of regular treatment to keep them from growing up again. To kill the growth of these potential weeds, a weed killer without strong residual action is valueless. However effective most "knock-down" weed killers may be on standing vegetation, they will not prevent germination to any degree after six months.

Weed killing has become a science, a fact already fully appreciated by such organisations as British Railways and the petroleum industry. All local authorities are united on one point. If the time factor is ignored, spraying of weeds can mean money down the drain.

At some time during the course of the year, all local government authorities are faced with the problem of removal of unwanted vegetation. Although this problem may be small by comparison with other projects, its importance and the local authorities' awareness of it has increased considerably during the last few years.

As footpaths are the local authorities' shop window and the costs for footpath treatment vary according to degree of infestation, type of path and type of weed killer, a programme for weeding footpaths without joints being recemented can be a waste of time.

Weeding throughout your Borough is done by means of one machine and the use of one of the most up-to-date chemicals on the market at the present time.

Gully Cleansing

Gully cleansing in the Borough is now being carried out by your two gully cleansing machines, which are as follows:—

SAJ 979	7½ years old
688 AAJ	2½ years old

The old gully cleansing machine, GPY 520, which was overhauled, has been handed over to the Engineers' Department. This is now ten years old. It is used solely in the Engineers' Department; the running costs, etc., are borne by the Engineers, but maintenance is still done by your Health Department mechanics.

Once again, during the summer months, the Esplanade, High Street, Coatham Road, Newcomen Terrace, Lobster Road, Queen Street, Milbank Terrace, Lord Street and Station Road were flushed with sea water. This method has been much appreciated as it is a means of settling the dust, and on very good days two flushings have taken place.

Below will be found a summary of the cleansing costs, including salvage, for the year ended 31st December, 1965:—

Refuse Collection

Total number of loads	3,865
Total tonnage collected	11,200
Weight of refuse per 1,000 population per day	17.53 cwts
Cost per ton collected	£2/10/11d.
Cost per 1,000 population	£801/9/8½d.
Cost per 1,000 premises	£2,157/16/11d.

Refuse Disposal

Cost per ton disposed	5/5.3d.
Cost per 1,000 population	£101/0/6.8d.
Cost per 1,000 premises	£272/0/0d.

Street Sweeping

Total sq. yards of surface cleansed during year ...	34,000,000
Cost per 1,000 sq. yards	8/10.15d.
Cost per 1,000 population	£429/13/8.4d.

Gully Cleansing

Total number of gullies cleansed	23,900
Cost per 1,000 gullies	£171/16/7.9d.
Cost per 1,000 population	£117/6/10.2d.

The basis of this report is as follows:—

Estimated normal population	35,000
Approximate number of premises	13,000
Tonnage collected	11,200
Tonnage disposed of (estimated)	13,000
Cost of Refuse Collection	£28,052
Cost of Refuse Disposal	£3,536
Cost of Street Cleansing	£15,039
Cost of Gully Cleansing	£4,107

HOUSING STATISTICS

Number of new houses completed in 1965:—

(a)	Council	2
(b)	Other	177

1—Inspection of dwellinghouses during the year:—

(1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts)	330
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	1,047
(2) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	3
(3) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	87

2—Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice:—

(1) Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	74

3—Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1957:

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	2
(2) Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	2
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	13
(2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice:—	
(a) By Owners	3
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	10

C. Proceedings under Section 1:—

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	3
(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0
(3) Number of dwellinghouses closed	3

Rent Act, 1957

During the year the following action has been taken under the First Schedule:—

Part I—Application for Certificates of Disrepair	
Number of application for Certificates	2
Number of decisions not to issue Certificates	Nil
Number of decisions to issue Certificates:—	
(a) in respect of some but not all defects	Nil
(b) in respect of all defects	2
Number of undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	Nil
Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority under proviso to paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	Nil
Number of Certificates issued	2
Part II—Applications for Cancellation of Certificates	
Applications by landlords to Local Authority for cancellation of Certificates	Nil
Objections by tenants to cancellation of Certificates	Nil
Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenant's objection	Nil
Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	Nil

Houses in Multiple Occupation

Inspections have been made of houses in multiple occupation, in some cases in conjunction with the Fire Brigade. Work has been carried out to improve these houses as laid down under the Act, but progress is very slow as some occupants were happy to have a roof over their head and felt no need to get involved with the Health Department. Multiply occupied houses now were required to have almost as high a standard as the ordinary home.

In conclusion, may I once again pay tribute and express my sincere thanks to the chairman and all members of the Health Committee, the Medical Officer of Health, Doctor P. S. R. Burrell, the Chief Officials of the Council, the Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector, the whole of the inspectorial staff and clerical staff and to the loyal workmen of the Health Department for their willingness at all times and their fullest co-operation throughout the last twelve months in completing the daily tasks and duties, for without the loyal support of the above mentioned, your Health Department would not have been able to acquire the results which are shown in this report.

I remain, Mesdames and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

N. HUDSON,

Chief Public Health Inspector,
& Cleansing Superintendent.

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